

P21764.A09

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in light of the present amendments and in view of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 31 and 32 are pending in the present application. Claims 31 and 32 are amended, and claims 1-30, 33 and 34 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof, and applicants respectfully reserve the right to file a continuing application based thereon.

In the outstanding Office Action, claims 1, 33 and 34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,603,093 to Edwards et al. (herein "EDWARDS"); claim 31 was indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form; and claim 32 was allowed.

In view of the indication of allowable subject matter, pending claim 31 is rewritten in independent form including all the features of claim 1 from which it previously depended. Further, claims 1-30, 33 and 34 are canceled.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted the rejection of claim 31 is moot, and that rewritten independent claim 31 and independent claim 32 are therefore currently allowable.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that the present Response is proper and that none of the references of record, considered alone or in any proper

P21764.A09

combination thereof, anticipate or render obvious Applicants' invention as recited in claims 31 and 32.

Accordingly, consideration of the present Response, reconsideration of the outstanding Official Action, and allowance of the present application and all of the claims therein are respectfully requested and now believed to be appropriate.

Applicants have made a sincere effort to place the present application in condition for allowance and believe that they have now done so.

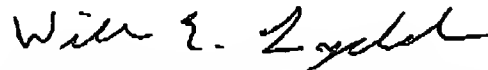
Any amendments to the claims which have been made in this amendment, and which have not been specifically noted to overcome a rejection base upon the prior art, should be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional necessary fees concerning the present application to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

P21764.A09

If there should be any questions, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact
the undersigned at the below listed number.

Respectfully submitted,
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